

REMARKS

Claim 15 has been amended so as to sharpen its definition of the invention relative to the prior art.

New claims 26 and 27 are added herewith, more particular to the nature of the further ceramic layer or layers (13).

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as unpatentable over FERAL et al. in view of PHILLIPS.

PHILLIPS is directed toward particular materials of the construction of the ceramic element and accordingly need not be further considered. It is accordingly only as to FERAL et al., that particular consideration need be given.

FERAL et al. discloses a stack of three electrodes 4, 2, 3 with ceramic elements 1, 6 between them.

By contrast, the present invention, as exemplified in Figure 2 of our drawings, discloses electrodes 8, 10 with ceramic material 2 between them, and on their outer sides a further ceramic layer 13. The ceramic layer 13 buries its respective electrode 8 or 10, with the advantages set forth in the material that bridges pages 7 and 8 of our specification and so need not be repeated here.

Claim 15 has been amended to recite that ceramic layer 13 buries its associated electrode layer 8 or 10. This

arrangement is not to be found in FERAL et al. In FERAL et al., none of the three electrodes 3, 2 or 4 is buried by the ceramic material. The central electrode 2 is not buried because it protrudes from between the layers of ceramic material at its right end.

Claim 15 is thus patentably characterized, and with it the claims that depend therefrom.

New claim 26 recites the exposed surface of a further ceramic layer 13, which surface is opposite the associated electrode 8 or 10. By contrast, in FERAL et al., if the ceramic material 1 or 6 is considered to correspond to our ceramic layer 13, then neither surface thereof is exposed as required by claim 26. Instead, both such surfaces are covered by the respective electrodes 3 and 4.

Therefore, claim 26 is patentable over the prior art.

Claim 27 is more specific to the Figure 2 arrangement, requiring as it does the five element sequence 13-8-2-10-13, 8 and 10 being electrodes and 13, 2, 13 being ceramic. This is the opposite of FERAL et al., in which the sequence is electrode-ceramic-electrode-ceramic-electrode. Again, the advantages of the arrangement of the present invention are set forth in the cited portion of our specification.

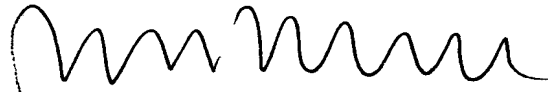
As the claims now in the case clearly bring out these distinctions with ample particularity, it is believed that they

are all patentable, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

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